

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 07811 031020Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ARA-16 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 EUR-25 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 /159 W

----- 128492

R 030908Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7802

INFO USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, CU

SUBJ: CUBAN NATIONAL INSURRECTION DAY MARKED IN PEKING

NCNA (JULY 27) REPORTED THE ATTENDANCE OF CHEN SHU-FU, VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE, AND CHANG WEN-CHIN, ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER, AT A RECEPTION IN PEKING MARKING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CUBAN INSURRECTION. HOSTED BY THE CHINA-CUBAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION THE RECEPTION REFLECTS THE SLOW BUT STEADY WARMING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN HAVANA AND PEKING OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS. RELATIONS WERE STRAINED IN 1966 OVER CASTRO'S STAUNCH IDENTIFICATION WITH THE SOVIET CAMP AND HIS UNILATERAL DISCLOSURE OF THE CONTENTS OF SINO-CUBAN TRADE TALKS THEN IN SESSION IN PEKING. AT THAT TIME CHINESE PURCHASES OF CUBAN SUGAR AND EXPORT OF RICE WERE SEVERELY CURTAILED, AND ALL PEKING MEDIA REFERENCES TO CASTRO CEASED. ALTHOUGH NOT YET BACK TO THEIR PRE-1966 LEVEL--ESPECIALLY IN PARTY AFFAIRS--THE WARMING OF RELATIONS HAS BEEN PUNCTUATED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS BY CUBA'S APPOINTMENT OF A NEW AMBASSADOR TO PEKING IN MARCH, 1972, AND NCNA REFERENCES TO CASTRO AS BOTH PRIME MINISTER AND FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA (MAY 30, 1972). SINO-CUBAN TRADE REMAINS AT A RELATIVELY LOW LEVEL. THE LIBERATION DAY RECEPTION HOSTED LAST JANUARY BY THE CUBAN AMBASSADOR IN PEKING

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WAS ATTENDED BY SUCH HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS AS FOREIGN MINISTER CHI

PENG-FEI, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER CHIAO KUAN-HUA, MINISTER OF TRADE
PAI HSIANG-KUO, AND A VICE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS ALONG
WITH A DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE PLA.
OSBORN

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Message Attributes

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